CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1049
24 January 1991

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Agenda for the 1991 session

and

Programme of Work for the Conference on Disarmament
(Adopted at its 578th plenary meeting on 24 January 1991)

The Conference on Disarmament, as the multilateral negotiating forum, shall promote the attainment of general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

The Conference, taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the documents of the first and second special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, will deal with the cessation of the arms race and disarmament and other relevant measures in the following areas:

I. Nuclear weapons in all aspects;

II. Chemical weapons;

III. Other weapons of mass destruction;

IV. Conventional weapons;

V. Reduction of military budgets;

VI. Reduction of armed forces;

VII. Disarmament and development;

VIII. Disarmament and international security;

IX. Collateral measures, confidence-building measure ; effective verification methods in relation to appropriate disarmament measures, acceptable to all parties concerned;

X. Comprehensive programme of disarmament leading to general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

GE.91-60108/8905A

Within the above framework, the Conference on Disarmament adopts the following agenda for 1991 which includes items that, in conformity with the provisions of Section VIII of its Rules of Procedure, would be considered by it:

1. Nuclear test ban.

2. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.

3. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.

4. Chemical weapons.

5. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.

6. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

7. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.

8. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.

9. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Programme of Work

In compliance with rule 28 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference on Disarmament also adopts the following programme of work for its 1991 session:

22 January - 1 February	Adoption of the agenda, establishment of subsidiary bodies and their mandates, decision on participation of non-member States, and statements on all items;
4-15 February	Statements on all items, and informal presidential consultations on outstanding matters;
18 February - 28 March) 14 May - 27 June) 23 July - 16 August)	Statements on all items, and supervision of work in subsidiary bodies;
19 August - 4 September	Final statements and consideration and adoption of Report.

In accordance with rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure, the following Member States shall assume the Presidency of the Conference during the 1991 session as indicated below:

(a) Sri Lanka from 22 January to 17 February;

(b) Sweden from 18 February to 17 March;

(c) The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from 18 March to 26 May, including the recess between the first and the second part of the annual session;

(d) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from 27 May to 23 June;

(e) The United States of America from 24 June to 11 August, including the recess between the second and third part of the annual session; and

(f) Venezuela from 12 August to 4 September and the recess until the 1992 session of the Conference.

The Conference shall hold two plenary meetings a week on Tuesdays and Thursday at 10 a.m. during the following periods: 22 January - 1 February, 25-28 March, 24-27 June and 12-23 August. For the remaining 18 weeks of the annual session, only one plenary shall be scheduled every week, preferably on Thursdays. Flexible provisions shall, however, be made to allow for a second plenary.

The Conference will continue consideration of its improved and effective functioning and will report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on that subject.

The Conference will further intensify its consultations in pursuance of paragraphs 14 and 15 of its last annual report (CD/1039) with a view to taking a positive decision at its 1991 annual session with regard to expansion of its membership by not more than four States and the need to maintain balance in the membership of the Conference and will inform accordingly the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Meetings of the subsidiary bodies will be convened after consultations between the President of the Conference and the Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies, according to the circumstances and needs of those bodies.

The Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts to Consider International Co-operative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events will meet from 11 to 22 February 1991.

In adopting its programme of work, the Conference has kept in mind the provisions of rules 30 and 31 of its Rules of Procedure.